

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 21, 2022

Isaiah 66:18-21; Psalm 117; Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13; Luke 13:22-30

A major credit card company has built an ad campaign on the slogan "membership has its privileges." Like it or not, the image portrayed is one having to do with exclusivity; everyone may be equal, but some are more equal than others. Ours is a class conscious world. There's even a clothing line called "Members Only". Nationality, creed, color, gender, and age count.

The Scriptures for this weekend confront us with the problem of exclusivity. The challenge is to embrace as God embraces. God is an unconditional God and universal in love.

The verses found in today's first reading are later additions to that part of Isaiah called Third Isaiah (Chapters 56-66), composed about 500 B.C. This excerpt proclaims God's all-inclusive vision: "I am coming to gather all nations and tongues" (66:18). Not only does God welcome the Gentiles (non-Jews) but actually invites them to be missionaries on God's behalf, " ... and they shall declare my glory among the nations" (Isaiah 66:19). The Gentiles are even entitled to be priests and Levites.

Luke, in both his gospel and Acts of the Apostles, insists that Jesus' message encompasses Jews and Gentiles alike. Matthew limits the genealogy of Jesus to Israel (Matthew 1:1-16); Luke extends it to make Jesus a son of Adam (Luke 3:23-38).

Jesus explains that association with him is not enough. The narrow door makes the point that salvation comes through more than talk; committed action is required. The closing lines of today's gospel again emphasize universalism: "People will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God" (Luke 13:29). Watchfulness, not election, is the basis for entrance into the kingdom.

Access to God is unrestricted. The Lord yearns to be shared with all people. Our lifestyle must testify to the dignity and worth of each individual as the handiwork of the Creator.

-- John Craghan, Th.D., S.S.L. Copyright 1997, Liguori Publications / Liguori, MO 63057-9999

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time- Aug 28, 2022

Sirach 3:17-18,20,28-29; Psalm 68; Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24; Luke 14:1,7-14



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Mission: Live Catholic teachings,
Participate in Sacramental and Liturgical Celebrations, Serve our Community

ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

2020 State Rte. 146 E, Vienna, IL – 62995

Parish Council Chair: Becky Bowers

Trustees: Matthew Slife, Jared Bergmann

Sundays – 8:00 am

Weekdays – Fri 6:00 pm

A Person of Charity

The Kingdom of God will not be restricted to a select few: “People will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and will take their place at the feast in the kingdom of God.”

Even among the Jews of the Mosaic covenant, who tended to be clannish, the message from God was clear: I come to gather nations of every language; they shall come and see my glory.

“So go out to all the world and tell the Good News.”

Go out to the poor and hungry and tell them to take their place at the feast of the kingdom.

Go out to the oppressed and persecuted and tell them to take their place at the feast of the kingdom.

Go out to the people on death row and tell them to take their place at the feast of the kingdom.

Go out to all the isolated and alienated, the lonely elderly, those dying of AIDS, the prostitutes and pornographers, and tell them to take their place at the feast of the kingdom.

“Bring all your brethren from all the nations as an offering to the Lord: that is the challenge given us by the one who is the way, the truth, and the life.” ([First Reading](#))

The missionary is a person of charity. In order to proclaim to all his brothers and sisters that they are loved by God and are capable of loving, he must show love toward all, giving his life for his neighbor.

The missionary is the ‘universal brother,’ bearing in himself the Church’s spirit, her openness to and interest in all peoples and individuals, especially the least and poorest of his brethren.

As such, he overcomes barriers and divisions of race, cast or ideology. He is a sign of God’s love in the world—a love without exclusion or partiality.

Pope John Paul II, Redemptoris Mission, 1990: 89

--Gerald Darring SLU Sunday Site

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Schedule of Masses

Sun Aug 21 8:00 am
Fri Aug 26 6:00 pm Mass
Sun Aug 28 8:00 am

Birthdays
August 23 Mike McMahan
August 24 Amanda Widowski

Liturgical Ministers

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Aug 21	A Dueker	G Tesina	M Slife	M Palmer, E Zmuda	*M McMahan, J Bergmann
		<u>Cantor</u>	C Ross		
	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Aug 28	Z Garrett	C Johnson	M Nelson	C Bergmann, N Zmuda	*Jo Nelson, Je Nelson
		<u>Cantor</u>	C Ross		

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING

August 14 2022

General (17) \$788.00
Loose \$75.00

Total \$863.00

Bldg & Maint. (13) \$320.00

Total \$320.00

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

Sun Aug 21 8:00 am Mass
Thu Aug 25 9:00 am -3 pm Faith Alive work Day
Fri Aug 26 9:00 am -3 pm Faith Alive work Day
Fri Aug 26 6:00 pm Mass
Sat Aug 27 9:00 am -12 noon Faith Alive work Day
Sun Aug 28 8:00 am
9:00 am Adult Bible Study

RESPECT LIFE CORNER

“God’s love—individual, real, unchanging—is the true source of our worth, identity, and dignity. It really is not a question of who we are, but rather whose we are. Because his love will never change, nothing can reduce our God-given dignity, and nothing can diminish the immeasurable worth of our lives.”

-- USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities “How to Build a Culture of Life”

BOX OF JOY

Grab a gift list from the church entry way and consider picking up a few extra items to provide children in the Caribbean or Central America with Christmas gifts. You can either bring items to church and place in tub under bulletin board or fill your own shoe box or Box of Joy containers. Our Box of Joy collection will continue until the end of September. It is managed by Belleville Diocese Council of Catholic Women (BDCCW) for Cross Catholic Outreach. Questions? Call Pam Shallenberger at 217-586-4568. T

PARISH PICNIC COMING SEPTEMBER 18

Plans are underway for an enjoyable day of fun, games, food and fellowship for the whole family. The picnic will be held after 10:00 Mass on September 18. St. Paul's will provide Pork Steaks, Chicken, Hotdogs and Drinks. There will be a Potluck Sign Up Sheet on the bulletin board, so please sign up to bring your families favorite dish. You won't want to miss this so please mark your calendars. Any questions please feel free to call me, Donna @ 618-691-8223. Thank You

VOCATION CORNER AUGUST 21ST

“My vocation was born during a painful time. When I was 15, my mom was abducted and held for ransom in Haiti. In the confusion and despair that followed, I prayed “Lord, your Son died on a Friday and rose on a Sunday. My mother was taken this Friday – would you return her this Sunday? In exchange, I will give you my life.” Thanks be to God, she was returned to us. I believe this experience was the moment when God began to prepare me for my vocation. He brought many people into my life along the way to teach me how to pray and form me in my faith. I eventually said yes to his call and entered seminary. The rest of the journey wasn’t without its challenges, but by then I had learned to turn to the Lord and trust in his guidance.

Fr. Ronald Angervil; Diocese of Catharine, Ontario; *Columbia Magazine* May 2021

LOOKING AHEAD

August 25-27 St. Paul operates Faith Alive Store
September 4 Food item drive for Stonefort Food Pantry begins
September 11 School children blessing during Mass
September 18 Parish Picnic following 10:00 am Mass
Early Bird winner for Draw-Down
September 27 BDCCW early registration deadline for Oct 12 convention in Pinkneyville.
September 30 Box of Joy Deadline for return of boxes
October 1 1st Saturday Mass